



Arlington Conservation Commission

Date: August 1, 2019

Time: 7:30pm

Location: Second floor conference room, Town Hall Annex
730 Massachusetts Ave, Arlington, MA

Minutes

Attendance: Commission Members David White, Nathaniel Stevens, Chuck Tirone, and Pam Heidell; and Conservation Agent Emily Sullivan. Also present were Scott Keegan, Margaret Cimini, Daniel Swain, Dana Hoglund, Steve Revilak, as well as other members of the public who did not sign in.

Associate Commissioner Cathy Garnett, Commissioner Susan Chapnick, and Commissioner Mike Nonni were not present.

Administrative Items

Invasives Training

E. Sullivan stated that the June training was attended by approximately 20 people. The training included both classroom style learning and field identification. E. Sullivan will use the attendee list to coordinate volunteer efforts across town.

McClennen Buffer

D. White stated that the Parks Division has been mowing the grass at McClennen Park to the edge of the detention basins. D. White stated that this violates the ongoing conditions of the site's Order of Conditions (MassDEP File # 091-0134). E. Sullivan stated that she would work with the Parks Division to ensure that there is a larger vegetated buffer maintained, and that the lawn is not mowed down to the edge of the detention basins.

Novus Agenda

E. Sullivan asked the Commission if it would be interested in using Novus Agenda in the future. Novus Agenda is used by the Select Board and Redevelopment Board. Novus Agenda allows the public to directly access meeting materials by linking all documents directly to the online agenda. The

Commission said that E. Sullivan should look into the implementation of Novus Agenda, and then recommend whether or not to use it.

Discuss Process for Electing New Chair and Possible Vote

The Commission continued its conversation regarding the process to elect a new chair. D. White stated that he likes the Chair and Vice Chair structure better than the Co-Chair structure. The Commission agreed that an annual vote should be taken to decide the Chair and Vice Chair positions. The vote should be taken annually at the end of June. No vote was taken to elect a new chair. The Commission agreed to continue the conversation and vote at a future meeting when all voting Commissioners were present.

Team Building and Goal Setting Meeting

E. Sullivan asked the Commission if it would be interested in having a team building and goal setting meeting. E. Sullivan recommended that because the Commission is undergoing a few new changes (new Commissioner, new Chair, etc.), that it may be helpful to meet and discuss goals for the next year. E. Sullivan recommended that the Commission take one of the October meetings and dedicate the entire meeting to goal setting. The Commission supports the idea of a team building and goal setting meeting. E. Sullivan will update the Commission in September with the time, location, and tentative agenda for such a meeting.

Conservation Commission Candidates

The Commission discussed and deliberate which candidate it should recommend to the Town Manager. The Commission decided to recommend candidate D. Kaplan to the Town Manager, subject to the Select Board's approval. The Commission also decided to recommend M. Gildesgame as an associate member.

Request for Certificate of Compliance: 71 Dothan Street

DEP File Number: 091-0267

Documents Reviewed:

- 1) Request for Certificate of Compliance, dated 12/13/2016
- 2) Order of Conditions, dated 12/7/2015
- 3) Invasive Plant Control Program, prepared by Oxbow Associates, dated 3/2/2016
- 4) 2018 Invasive Plant Removal and Monitoring Report, prepared by Oxbow Associates, dated 9/12/2018
- 5) 2019 Invasive Plant Removal and Monitoring Report, prepared by Oxbow Associates, dated 7/23/2019

Resource Areas:

- 1) Alewife Brook
- 2) 100-Foot Wetlands Buffer Zone
- 3) 200-Foot Riverfront Area
- 4) 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Floodplain

5) Floodway

E. Sullivan summarized her 7/22/2019 site inspection and recommended that the Commission issue a complete Certificate of Compliance. D. White motioned to issue the complete Certificate of Compliance, C. Tirone seconded, all were in favor, motion approved.

Request for Certificate of Compliance: 69 Henderson Street

DEP File Number: 091-0298

Documents Reviewed:

- 1) Request for Certificate of Compliance, dated 7/29/2019
- 2) Order of Conditions, dated 8/24/2018
- 3) Project Narrative, prepared by Winder + Kironde, dated 8/8/218
- 4) 69 Henderson Existing and Proposed Landscape Plans, prepared by Winder + Kironde, stamped by William C Winder RA, dated 8/2/2018, revised 8/8/2018
- 5) 69 Henderson St As-Built, prepared by Rober Survey, stamped by Clifford E Rover PLS, dated 7/26/2019

Resource Areas:

- 1) Alewife Brook
- 2) 100-Foot Wetlands Buffer Zone
- 3) 200-Foot Riverfront Area
- 4) 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Floodplain
- 5) Floodway

E. Sullivan summarized her 7/31/2019 site inspection and recommended that the Commission issue a complete Certificate of Compliance with ongoing conditions which include four conditions (#39-42) from the Standard Order of Conditions:

39. Pervious surfaces shown on the project plans shall be maintained and not be replaced by impervious surfaces. **This shall be a continuing condition that survives the expiration of the permit and shall be included in any Certificate of Compliance as a continuing condition.**
40. All plantings shall be native and be installed and maintained according to the standards of the American Association of Nurserymen (AAN). **This shall be a continuing condition that survives the expiration of the permit and shall be included in any Certificate of Compliance as a continuing condition.**
41. The lawn is to remain lawn and re-sodding is not permitted. If possible, to avoid adding excess Nitrogen to Alewife Brook, lawn fertilizer should contain low amounts of Nitrogen and be slow-release, and applied only in twice a year, in spring and then fall. **This shall be a continuing condition that survives the expiration of the permit and shall be**

included in any Certificate of Compliance as a continuing condition.

42. The foundation design shall not change from what is shown on the project plans without permission of the Conservation Commission because of the proximity of the 100-year floodplain. **This shall be a continuing condition that survives the expiration of the permit and shall be included in any Certificate of Compliance as a continuing condition.**

D. White motioned to issue the complete Certificate of Compliance with the aforementioned ongoing conditions, C. Tirone seconded, all were in favor, motion approved.

Request for Certificate of Compliance: 73 Henderson Street

DEP File Number: 091-0297

Documents Reviewed:

- 1) Request for Certificate of Compliance, dated 7/29/2019
- 2) Order of Conditions, dated 8/24/2018
- 3) Project Narrative, prepared by Winder + Kironde, dated 8/8/218
- 4) 73 Henderson Existing and Proposed Landscape Plans, prepared by Winder + Kironde, stamped by William C Winder RA, dated 8/2/2018, revised 8/8/2018
- 5) 73 Henderson St As-Built, prepared by Rober Survey, stamped by Clifford E Rover PLS, dated 7/26/2019

Resource Areas:

- 1) Alewife Brook
- 2) 100-Foot Wetlands Buffer Zone
- 3) 200-Foot Riverfront Area
- 4) 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Floodplain
- 5) Floodway

E. Sullivan summarized her 7/31/2019 site inspection and recommended that the Commission issue a complete Certificate of Compliance with ongoing conditions which include four conditions (#38-41) from the Standard Order of Conditions:

38. Pervious surfaces shown on the project plans shall be maintained and not be replaced by impervious surfaces. **This shall be a continuing condition that survives the expiration of the permit and shall be included in any Certificate of Compliance as a continuing condition.**
39. All plantings shall be native and be installed and maintained according to the standards of the American Association of Nurserymen (AAN). **This shall be a continuing condition that survives the expiration of the**

permit and shall be included in any Certificate of Compliance as a continuing condition.

40. The lawn is to remain lawn and re-sodding is not permitted. If possible, to avoid adding excess Nitrogen to Alewife Brook, lawn fertilizer should contain low amounts of Nitrogen and be slow-release, and applied only in twice a year, in spring and then fall. **This shall be a continuing condition that survives the expiration of the permit and shall be included in any Certificate of Compliance as a continuing condition.**

41. The foundation shall not change from what is shown on the project plans without permission of the Conservation Commission because of the proximity of the 100-year floodplain. **This shall be a continuing condition that survives the expiration of the permit and shall be included in any Certificate of Compliance as a continuing condition.**

C. Tirone motioned to issue the complete Certificate of Compliance with the aforementioned ongoing conditions, D. White seconded, all were in favor, motion approved.

Request for Determination of Applicability: 103 Sunnyside Avenue

No DEP File Number because RDA

Documents Reviewed:

- 1) RDA Package, dated 7/16/2019

Resource Areas:

- 1) Alewife Brook
- 2) 100-Foot Wetlands Buffer Zone
- 3) 200-Foot Riverfront Area
- 4) 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Floodplain
- 5) Floodway

D. Swain and D. Hoglund presented the project proposal, which includes converting an existing car port into a deck and connecting the deck to an existing stairway

D. White asked if new footings would need to be installed to support the extended deck section. D. Hoglund stated that 1 or 2 footings may need to be installed, otherwise all existing footings will be utilized and the posts replaced. C. Tirone asked if Inspectional Services has reviewed the plans yet. D. Hoglund stated that after the Conservation Commission's approval, the project will be review by Inspectional Services.

P. Heidell asked whether this project could be approved through a negative determination if new footings were being proposed within the floodplain. N.

Stevens stated that 1 or 2 new footings could be approved, and that the determination could be conditioned.

C. Tirone asked if the project would include any regrading or change in ground cover. D. Hoglund stated that there would be no change in grade or ground cover.

P. Heidell asked whether a site improvement was mandatory given that this project site is within the 200-foot Riverfront Area. C. Tirone suggested that the site could be improved with additional plantings, and could be the determination could be conditioned as such.

Public Comments

S. Revilak stated that he approved of the proposed project as an abutter. C. Tirone asked S. Revilak if he has noticed an increase in flooding in the Sunnyside Neighborhood over the last 5 years. S. Revilak stated that he has not experienced extreme flooding since 2010, and has not noticed flooding exacerbation. However, S. Revilak noted that his sample size was small and therefore not conclusively indicative of a change in flood severity.

The Commission determined that two conditions were appropriate for this determination:

- 1) No more than two new footings can be installed. If more than 2 footings are required, the Applicants need to file a Notice of Intent.
- 2) Native plants shall be installed along one of the property's fencelines, as discussed during the project's hearing.

C. Tirone moved to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability with the two aforementioned conditions under the Wetlands Protection Act and Arlington Wetlands Protection Bylaw, D. White seconded, all were in favor, motion approved.

Notice of Intent: 36 Peabody Road (continued from 6/20/2019)

No DEP File Number assigned yet

The Applicant requested that the hearing be continued to the August 15th, 2019 meeting.

D. White moved to continue the hearing to the August 15th meeting, P. Heidell seconded, all were in favor, motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.